

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193844

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ORIGIN ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 SIG-01 A-01 IGA-01 /012 R

DRAFTED BY A/BF/OAG:RADEITCHMAN;EA/PHL:ECHULEN:MB

APPROVED BY A:JMTHOMAS

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P 151430Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, AMGT

SUBJECT: GAO COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY

REF: MANILA 11110; STATE 142556

1. GAO AUDITORS CONDUCTING SUBJECT SURVEY ARE DOUGLAS TOXOPEUS AND TOBY JARMAN OF GAO'S FAR EAST BRANCH. BOTH WILL HAVE HAD SUBSTANTIVE BRIEFINGS IN BUREAU (COUNTRY DIRECTOR, POST MANAGEMENT), AND WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF USIA, USAID, DOD, FAS, ETC.
 2. EA/PHL BRIEFED TOXOPEUS ON JUNE 27. HULEN COVERED CURRENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION OF PHILIPPINES, AND OUR MAJOR INTERESTS IN THE RELATIONSHIPS. HE SUGGESTED THAT THEN RECENT PHILIPPINE STATEMENTS ON CHANGES IN MILITARY BASE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN AT LESS THAN FACE VALUE, AND DESCRIBED PROGRESS IN DEALING WITH LAUREL-LANGLEY CARRYOVER RIGHTS. ALSO, U.S. MISSION WAS DESCRIBED, TOGETHER WITH HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN ITS SIZE AND DIVERSE FUNCTIONS. BRIEFING WILL BE RE-
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PAGE 02 STATE 193844

PEATED FOR JARMAN LATTER PART NEXT WEEK. ALSO, JARMAN

WILL BE PERMITTED READ AND TAKE NOTES MOST PARTS OF PARA NOW NEARING COMPLETION. HE WILL NOT BE GIVEN COPY. CONSEQUENTLY, GAO AUDIT TEAM SHOULD NOT REQUIRE ACCESS TO PARA IN MANILA.

3. GAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HARRY FINLEY, WHO ACCOMPANYING, IS AWARE OF DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED WITH EARLIER SURVEYS AND AUDITORS, THUS DEPARTMENT DOES NOT FORESEE RECURRENCE SIMILAR INCIDENTS ON PART GAO REPS CONDUCTING THIS SURVEY. AS SUGGESTED IN STATE 185628, ANY CONCERNS OF OPERATIVE OR ADMINISTRATIVE NATURES SHOULD BE RAISED WITH GAO DIRECTOR WALTON SHELEY NOW VISITING MANILA.

4. SIMILAR GAO SURVEYS CONDUCTED AT NUMBER OTHER MISSIONS HAVE BEEN REASONABLE AND GENERALLY PROBLEM FREE. GAO FORWARDED LETTER TO AMBASSADOR, DATED AUGUST 8, DESCRIBING SCOPE, PLAN, AND OBJECTIVES OF SURVEY WHICH SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES AND AMBASSADOR'S DISCRETION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE193844
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RADEITCHMAN;EA/PHL:ECHULEN:MB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750282-1153
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750848/aaaabpwe.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ABF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 75 MANILA 11110, 75 STATE 142556
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY
TAGS: AGAO, AMGT
To: MANILA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006